



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***DEVELOPMENT OF HUMAN ENTEROVIRUS 71 NANO CALCIUM
PHOSPHATE ADJUVANTED CANDIDATE VACCINE FOR PARENTERAL
AND MUCOSAL DELIVERY***

MOHAMED IBRAHIM SAEED AHMED

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By

MOHAMED IBRAHIM SAEED AHMED

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia, in
Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy**

November 2015

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DEDICATION

This effort is dedicated to my parents, my wife, Basil and my family.



Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

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November 2015

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A successful potent vaccine for protection against the faecal-oral pathogen human Enterovirus 71, requires the induction of both parenteral and mucosal immunity concurrently. Adsorbing the vaccine to a nano-sized particulate adjuvant will boost the systemic immune response towards parenteral administered vaccine, and combining the vaccine adjuvant and delivery carrier in one formulation for delivering mucosal vaccines is expected to improve the post-vaccination HEV71 mucosal protection. The purpose of this work was to examine the applicability of inducing improved post-vaccination immunity of Human Enterovirus 71 killed vaccine based on using nano-sized vaccine-adjuvant particles, variable routes of parenteral immunization and different polymeric delivery carriers for inducing enhanced post vaccination immunity as a novel approach for the development of an effective HEV71 vaccine.

A novel *in vitro* delivery system was designed and used to examine the *in vitro* release of the HEV71 killed-virus and calcium phosphate (CaP) adjuvants from the encapsulating delivery carrier comprising nano-sized chitosan and micro-sized alginate hydrogels prepared and used to compare their *in vitro* capacity of releasing the vaccine and adjuvant using commercial HEV71-VP1 kit and a Calcium Calorimetric Quantification Kit. In addition, an intervention animal study was conducted on laboratory experimental rabbits to examine its capacity for inducing post-vaccination systemic IgG levels from HEV71 killed-virus adsorbed in nano- and micro-sized CaP-adjuvants through intradermal and intramuscular routes. Buccal delivery consisted of HEV71 killed-virus adsorbed with CaP-adjuvant encapsulated in chitosan and alginate hydrogels and with the unvaccinated group kept as a control. The animals were immunized with HEV71 vaccine formulation and blood samples were withdrawn at 0, 1, 3, 5 and 7 weeks post immunization, the last samples were collected two weeks after the last dose. The samples were examined for the presence of HEV71 specific IgG and IgA antibody classes in the serum and saliva using an in-house developed ELISA assay.

The *in vitro* delivery of adjuvant loaded polymeric carrier offered an improved and sustained release of the nano-adjuvant encapsulated in chitosan but not alginate, due to the reversibility of adjuvant-polymer interaction. Moreover, chitosan hydrogel showed better encapsulation and reversible interaction with both the nano- and micro-sized adjuvant particles. The *in vitro* delivery of HEV71 killed-virus adsorbed adjuvant loaded onto a polymeric carrier displayed a superior capacity for generating an optimized sustained release of vaccine epitopes. Chitosan loaded nano-adjuvant offered ascending and extended vaccine antigen release, due to its smaller adjuvant size and reversibility of interaction, but not in alginate-adjuvant formulations, due the vaccine been sequestered in the calcium-alginate chemical crosslink.

In immunized animals, the nano-CaP in a one-tenth millilitre intradermal dose induced a higher level of viral specific antibody levels, which was almost equal to the intramuscular one millilitre administered after five doses. The nano-sized CaP was capable of producing a higher level of viral specific antibodies compared to the micro-particle sized commercial adjuvant or the vaccine without adjuvant when administered through the intradermal route. Intramuscular immunization with either nano- or micro-particles CaP adsorbed HEV71 killed-virus was able to induce higher viral specific antibodies than the nano-CaP adsorbed vaccine alone.

Chitosan encapsulation of the vaccine or a vaccine with nano-CaP induced a high IgA level due to its extended swelling, and reversibility of releasing the vaccine. The alginate formulations had no effect on the IgA levels, it seems the vaccine epitopes were trapped in the alginate composite. The effect of joint dual immunization parenteral and mucosal routes (nano-CaP-HEV71 killed-virus (ID) and vaccine encapsulated in chitosan through the buccal delivery) to the same animals induced enhanced both types of systemic and mucosal antibody responses, as displayed in serum IgG and salivary IgA antibody levels towards the vaccine. The vaccine being adsorbed into the nano-CaP (intradermal) offered enhanced virus neutralization in animal serum samples. However, the enhancement of the virus neutralization in saliva, seemed to be hindered by the flow of the salivary secretion.

In conclusion, the application of a novel nano-sized calcium phosphate as adjuvant is a promising strategic approach for the development of an improved HEV71 post-vaccination parenteral immunity. In addition, polymeric carrier concentration, hydrogel swelling capacity, the nature of adjuvant-carrier interaction, are important factors for the sustained release process of CaP-adjuvant and HEV71 killed-virus on the novel created vaccine delivery model. The use of a nano-sized adjuvant encapsulated in a muco-adhesive carrier introduces a novel system for the enhancement of post vaccination mucosal immunity not only through the buccal mucosa, but also to the other mucosal surfaces, such as nasal or urogenital.

Furthermore, the joint vaccine administration through the parenteral and mucosal routes enhanced the level of secretory IgA antibody in the saliva. In addition, an elevated post vaccination humoral immune response of a highly specific IgG and neutralizing antibodies was as shown in the *in vitro* inhibition of HEV71 live virus infectivity to Vero cell at the highest sample dilutions. Finally, the study finding is a key indicator for the role of nano-size adjuvant and carriers in augmenting the post-vaccination immunity. This could be applied to improve the post-vaccination immunity against other medical pathogens without limiting to Human Enterovirus 71.

Abstrak tesis ini dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi syarat keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**PEMBANGUNAN MANUSIA ENTEROVIRUS 71 NANO KALSIMUM FOSFAT
ADJUVANTED CALON VAKSIN UNTUK PENGHANTARAN PARENTERAL
DAN LAMBUNG**

Oleh

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Kerja-kerja ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji kebolehgunaan mendorong lebih baik imuniti selepas vaksinasi terhadap manusia Enterovirus-71 terbunuh vaksin berdasarkan menggunakan zarah pembolehubah bersaiz laluan parenteral ubah vaksin yg membantu imunisasi dan menggunakan pembawa polimer yang berbeza untuk mendorong penghantaran yang dipertingkatkan pos imuniti vaksinasi sebagai pendekatan baru untuk vaksin yang berkesan membangunkan HEV-71.

Sistem penyampaian dalam vitro novel direka dan digunakan untuk memeriksa pelepasan dalam vitro dibunuh HEV71-virus dan kalsium fosfat (CaP) adjuvants daripada syarikat pengangkutan penghantaran encapsulating yang terdiri daripada chitosan bersaiz nano dan hydrogels alginate bersaiz mikro disediakan dan digunakan untuk membandingkan kapasiti mereka dalam vitro melepaskan pelalian dan menormalkan menggunakan kit HEV71-VP1 komersial dan Kit mengkuantifikasi Calorimetric kalsium.

Penambahan haiwan dalam kajian campur tangan dalam arnab makmal eksperimen dijalankan untuk memeriksa kapasitinya untuk menggalakkan tahap IgG sistemik selepas suntikan daripada HEV71 vaksin adsorbed dalam nano dan mikro-bersaiz CaP-adjuvants melalui laluan intradermal. Penghantaran buccal terdiri daripada HEV71 membunuh virus adsorbed dengan CaP-menormalkan dimuatkan ke dalam hydrogels chitosan dan alginate dan Kumpulan unvaccinated yang disimpan sebagai kawalan.

Haiwan imunisasi dengan vaksin HEV71 formulasi dan sampel darah telah ditarik balik selepas pelalian pada minggu 0, 1, 3, 5 dan 7, mengumpul sampel dua minggu lepas selepas dos yang lepas. Sampel kajian telah disemak untuk kehadiran khusus IgG dan IgA kelas antibodi HEV71 serum dan air liur yang menggunakan cerakin ELISA yang maju.

Adsorbing pelalian untuk menormalkan zarah bersaiz nano akan meningkatkan respon imun sistemik terhadap vaksin berpandu parenteral, dan menggabungkan vaksin menormalkan dan penghantaran pembawa dalam satu formulasi untuk menyampaikan lambung vaksin dijangka bertambah baik selepas suntikan HEV71 lambung perlindungan.

Penghantaran dalam vitro menormalkan dimuatkan di formula pembawa chitosan ditawarkan siaran nano-menormalkan yang dimuatkan ke dalam chitosan tetapi tidak alginate yang lebih baik dan mampan. ini disebabkan oleh irreversibility kalsium-alginate interaksi.

Haiwan mendapat imunisasi, nano-topi dalam yang dos intradermal satu persepuluh mililiter induced tahap yang lebih tinggi tahap antibodi virus tertentu, bersamaan dengan intramuskular jumlah dos satu mililiter. Topi bersaiz nano adalah mampu menghasilkan tahap yang lebih tinggi daripada virus antibodi tertentu berbanding dengan micro-zarah yang bersaiz menormalkan atau pelalian tanpa menormalkan melalui laluan intradermal.

Imunisasi dengan mana-mana nano - atau mikro-zarah CaP adsorbed HEV71 membunuh virus telah berjaya memujuk lebih tinggi virus tertentu antibodi daripada nano-CaP adsorbed vaksin sahaja. Chitosan encapsulation pelalian atau vaksin dengan nano-CaP induced tahap IgA yang tinggi berikutan lanjutan bengkak, dan keterbalikan melepaskan pelalian. Formulasi alginate mempunyai kesan ke atas tahap IgA, ia seolah-olah epitopes vaksin terkandas dalam komposit alginate.

Kesan pelalian dwi bersama parenteral dan lambung laluan (nano-CaP-HEV71 membunuh virus (ID) dan vaksin yang dimuatkan ke dalam chitosan melalui penyampaian buccal) terhadap haiwan-haiwan yang sama induced dipertingkatkan kedua-dua jenis tindakbalas antibodi sistemik dan lambung, seperti yang dipaparkan dalam serum IgG dan tahap antibodi IgA salivary ke arah pelalian.

Kesimpulannya, penggunaan novel yang bersaiz-nano fosfat kalsium menormalkan adalah pendekatan strategik yang menjanjikan untuk pembangunan yang lebih baik HEV71 selepas suntikan parenteral imuniti. Di samping itu, kepekatan polymeric pembawa, hydrogel bengkak kapasiti, jenis interaksi menormalkan-pembawa, adalah faktor yang penting untuk proses pelepasan berterusan CaP-menormalkan dan HEV71 dibunuh-virus pada model penghantaran novel vaksin yang dicipta.

Penggunaan menormalkan bersaiz nano yang dimuatkan ke dalam sebuah pesawat yang muco-pelekat memperkenalkan satu sistem baru untuk meningkatkan jawatan suntikan lambung imuniti bukan sahaja melalui pihak buccal mucosa, tetapi juga untuk di lambung permukaan lain, seperti saluran hidung atau urogenital.

Selain itu, pentadbiran bersama vaksin melalui laluan parenteral dan lambung dipertingkatkan tahap antibodi IgA secretory di dalam air liur. Di samping itu, bertingkat untuk menghantar suntikan response imun perubahan daripada IgG yang sangat khusus dan meneutralkan antibodi adalah seperti yang ditunjukkan dalam kesan infectivity virus hidup HEV71 ke Vero sel pada dilutions contoh yang tertinggi di dalam vitro.

Akhir sekali, dapatan kajian adalah penunjuk utama bagi peranan menormalkan bersaiz nano dan pembawa peningkatan kekebalan selepas suntikan. Ini boleh digunakan untuk meningkatkan kekebalan selepas imunisasi terhadap patogen lain perubatan tanpa menghadkan kepada manusia Enterovirus 71.



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Mohamed Ibrahim Saeed



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

Alg	Alginate.
APC	Antigen-presenting cells
BALT	Bronchus-associated lymphoid tissue
BSA	Bovine serum albumin
CaP	Calcium Phosphate.
CH	Chitosan.
CPE	Cytopathic effect
CV-16	Coxsackievirus-16
ELISA	Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
HEV71	Human enterovirus 71
HFMD	Hand, Foot and Mouth disease
HRP	Horseradish peroxidase
MOI	Multiplicity of infection
OPV	Oral Poliovirus Vaccine
PRNT	Plaque Reduction Neutralization Test
PV	Poliovirus
RD	Rhabdomyosarcoma
RPMI	Roswell Park Memorial Institute medium
TMB	Teta methyle benzidine
TCID50	50% of Tissue Culture Infective Dose
VERO	African Green Monkey Kideny
VP	Viral structural protein
FTIR	Fourier transform infrared spectroscope
TEM	Transmission electron microscope
FESEM	Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope
C.H.N.S	Carbon Hydrogen Nitrogen and Sulpher

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

Vaccination is the most important tool for preventing infectious diseases. Vaccines are the biological preparations of the immune-protective microbial antigen (s). It is commonly used as a key prevention tool against viral infections such as poliovirus (Attenweiler & Thomure, 2014). They are the only accessible pre-exposure applicable preventive means against Human Enterovirus 71 (HEV71), it was identified in 1969 as a cause agent of Human Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD), a viral disease that attacks children of school age. The virus became among the most common pandemic disease after poliomyelitis (Debing, Jochmans, & Neyts, 2013). East Asia is the largest endemic region in which HEV71 infection spreads and the most affected countries include China, Japan, Taiwan, Malaysia, Singapore, Cambodia and Indonesia (Ma *et al.*, 2009; Jing *et al.*, 2012). Therefore, it became a necessity to develop an effective broad protective HEV71 vaccine. Antivirals and preventive vaccine, are commercially unavailable yet (Yu *et al.*, 2007; Sarma, 2013). The enhancement of mucosal immunity is crucial due to the mode of virus transmission and shedding portals. And mucosal immunity plays an important role in the prevention of the mucosal associated infectious diseases and for that a mucosal delivery of vaccines has become a top demand, and the use of vaccine adjuvants or delivery carriers, seems the best available approach to induce a measurable mucosal immunity.

The main goal of the study was to develop an improved viral-specific systemic and mucosal post-vaccination immune responses toward HEV-71, through novel vaccine designs and formulations based on the routes of vaccine administration.

1.1 Problem Statement:

In general, faecal-oral pathogen, such as HEV71, requires the induction of both parenteral and mucosal immunity concurrently. This needs to be achieved in line with the assurance of avoiding vaccine strain-derived infections.

Therefore the approach followed in this study involve the use of A nano-size, non-toxic and bio-compatible substance (calcium-phosphate) was chosen for preparing the adjuvant and biodegradable polymers was chosen as a carrier for the vaccine adsorbed on adjuvant as follows: First, adsorbing the vaccine to a nano-sized particulate adjuvant of an increased surface area compared to the conventionally used micro-particle or adjuvant of unknown size, which will delay and extend the release of the vaccine antigens. Then, administering the vaccine through intradermal route is again expected to offer a delayed release of un-adsorbed vaccine antigens. Moreover, the intradermal immunization with vaccine adsorbed to nano-size adjuvant is expected to have a synergistic role in controlling the vaccine release and extending its capacity to activate increased lymphocytes and elevate the systemic antibody towards the nano-adjuvanted killed HEV71 virus epitopes.

The polymeric carriers (chitosan & alginate) are expected to provide improved delivery and mucosal uptake of vaccine. This is due to its slow-swelling property which will

help to prolong the presentation of the vaccine, its muco-adhesion will improve the adherence of the vaccine to the mucosal surface and antigen trans-mucosal delivery by the M-cell and APCs. It will protect the protein-based vaccine offering an enhanced stability against the degrading enzymatic, acidity and elevated temperature on the mucosal linings. Therefore, the combined formula of particulate nano-size adjuvant encapsulated muco-adhesive carrier for vaccine delivery through the buccal mucosa, can offer a prolonged and enhanced post-vaccination HEV-71 mucosal protection.

In addition, the concurrent dual vaccination with vaccine adsorbed on nano-adjuvant particles combined with mucosal delivery of vaccine adsorbed adjuvant coated into muco-adhesive carrier is expected to provide an improved mucosal immune response (IgA). This is a novel strategy for HEV-71 and pathogens of the oral, respiratory or sexually transmitted infections.

1.1.1 Study aim:

The goal of this research work was the development of a safer, inactivated HEV-71 vaccine to be administered simultaneously through intradermal using a nano-sized adjuvant and orally using a novel vaccine delivery carrier formulations to concurrently develop combined systemic and mucosal immune responses.

1.2 Objectives of the study:

1.2.1 General objective:

To develop and evaluate Human enterovirus 71 nano- and micro-size calcium phosphate adjuvant adsorbed vaccine for parenteral administration and mucosal delivery of vaccine loaded carrier.

1.2.2 Specific objectives:

1.2.2.1 To examine the *in vitro* release of different calcium phosphate adjuvant particle size loading delivery carriers.

1.2.2.2 To examine the *in vitro* delivery of HEV71 killed-virus candidate vaccine from different formulations of two calcium phosphate adjuvants encapsulated in delivery polymeric carriers.

1.2.2.3 To evaluate the role of adjuvant particle size and administration routes on the HEV71 killed-virus systemic antibody response.

1.2.2.4 To compare the antibody response to mucosal delivery of HEV71 killed-virus encapsulated in different formulations of calcium phosphate adjuvant and polymeric carriers.

1.2.2.5 To compare the *in vitro* neutralizing antibody titres towards HEV71 killed-virus in animal samples post parenteral and mucosal immunization.

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